

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W

-----085037 221540Z /43

O 221500Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4977

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FROM MARKS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV CV

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PERIERA AND THE USG

REF: PRAIA 35

1. REFTEL RECONFIRMS INTEREST OF PRESIDENT PEREIRA OF CAPE VERDE IN SERVING AS CHANNEL BETWEEN USG AND "LUSO"BLOC OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS, AND SPECIFICALLY WITH ANGOLA. RECENT SERIES OF MEETINGS IN BISSAU, PRAIA, AND LUANDA BY THESE GOVERNMENTS (E.G., ON LAW OF THE SEA) INDICATE THEY INTEND TO MAINTAIN SOME FORM OF FRATERNAL LINKS AND ATTEMPT TO OPERATE AS A GROUP WITHIN OAU AND THIRD WORLD.

2. WITHIN LUSO BLOC AS WELL AS WITHIN PROGRESSIVE AFRICA IN GENERAL PEREIRA HAS PRESTIGE AS CLOSE COLLABORATOR OF AND HEIR TO AMICAL CABRAL AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF CAPE VERDE AND GUINEA BISSAU SINGLE PARTY PAIGC. HE HAS PARTICULARLY CLOSE POLITICAL AND PERSONAL TIES WITH AUGUSTINO NETO.

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3. U.S. RELATIONS WITH CV HAVE BEEN IMPROVING STEADILY WITH INCREASINGLY PRAGMATIC GOCV, WHICH IS OPENLY APPRECIATIVE OF SIGNIFICANT USG ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

4. CURRENT INSTABILITY IN VARIOUS AREAS OF AFRICA, AND CUBA-SOVIET ROLE, IS APPARENTLY WORRYING PEREIRA. MORE IMPORTANT, HE APPEARS TO BELIEVE THAT USG HAS

IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN AFRICA.

5. IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT PERIERA IS OFFERING TO SERVE AS CHANNEL FOR USG. GIVEN HIS UNIQUE POLITICAL CREDENTIALS, HIS OFFER SHOULD BE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED, GIVEN IMPORTANT ROLES TWO MEMBERS OF LUSO BLOC (ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE) ARE PLAYING ON THE CURRENT AFRICAN SCENE.

6. I UNDERSTAND THAT PEREIRA'S DESIRE FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON IS A NON-STARTER AT THIS TIME. FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES EXIST:

- A. PRESIDENT CARTER STOPS AT SAL AIRPORT AS SUGGESTED BY CV FOREIGN MINISTER (REFTEL).
- B. SPECIAL HIGH-LEVEL VISITOR TO PEREIRA.
- C. AUTHORIZATION FOR ME TO PURSUE SUBJECT WITH PEREIRA WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT LATER HIGH LEVEL CONTACT WILL PROBABLY RESULT.

7. I WILL BE ARRIVING PRAIA ON MARCH 26 FROM DAKAR TO SIGN \$6.3 MILLION SAL AID AGREEMENT. I ASSUME THIS SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED BY PEREIRA AND FONMIN DUARTE. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS BE SENT TO ME VIA EMBASSY YAOUNDE, WHERE I WILL BE STAYING UNTIL MORNING MARCH 25, OR EMBASSY DAKAR WHERE I WILL ARRIVE EVENING MARCH 25.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014